

THE LACLEDE BLADE.

A. J. CAYWOOD, Editor and Publisher.
A. J. BAUM, Local Editor.

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THE republican candidates are running on a gold platform; the democratic on a gold telegram.

THE democratic party must not be considered sane just because it has escaped from its late keeper.

THE republicans declared for the gold standard from conviction. The democrats omitted the money plank from fear.

THE democrats are looking for a new party emblem, the only requirement being that it be made large enough to conceal a knife.

THE democratic candidate for the vice presidency was a railroad man for many years. The voters will tell him where to get off in November.

VOTERS would pay more attention to democratic promises for the future if they were not so closely linked on the lips with apologies for the past.

It is stated that Judge Parker dearly loves to be out in a storm. He will get his fill of that when he is caught in the blizzard on November 8.

THE St. Louis convention served one purpose in showing that the democrats never accept republican principles until they are about eight years old.

WESTERN democrats assert that they are not satisfied with the political character of their vice presidential nominee. His financial character, however, is all right.

THE Igorrotes at St. Louis were ordered to wear pants, but are not wearing them. Judge Parker ordered a gold plank inserted in the democratic platform, but it is not there.

THE democrats who allowed Judge Parker to write their money plank should be fair and allow Millionaire Davis to revise their trust plank to suit his pleasure and his interests.

THE Daily Bee, the leading democratic newspaper of Sacramento, Cal., announces that it will not support the democratic candidate for president, but endorses the republican candidate and platform.

ONE thing must be said in Judge Parker's favor. He thinks so well of the republican gold standard policy that he has recommended it to a party he knows does not believe in it and is not honest in claiming to do so.

If the entire republican state committee is made up of as able and earnest party workers as the two from Linn county it is the best committee that ever conducted a campaign in Missouri. Hon. E. B. Allen, of Laclede, member at large, and R. R. Smith, of Brookfield, member from the second district, are not only ideal republicans but ideal citizens and business men that have a standing and influence that the party must have to win.

In a bulletin just issued Carroll D. Wright, commissioner of labor, submitted data to prove that since the financial depression of 1894 the rate of wages has increased at a greater rate than the cost of living. The report is a voluminous one and shows the most painstaking research. The increased cost of living is shown to be fifteen and five-tenths per cent, while the increased wages, per hour, are eighteen and eight-tenths over 1894. Tables are submitted which assert that the wages paid per hour in 1903 were higher than those paid any year since 1894. It is alleged the wages paid in 1903 were three per cent higher than in 1902, seven per cent higher than in 1901, ten per cent over 1900, fourteen per cent over 1899 and sixteen per cent over 1898, 1897 and 1896.

Missouri's Big Book.

Eighty thousand volumes of the most comprehensive book ever issued concerning the commonwealth of Missouri have just been published by the Missouri World's Fair Commission and are now ready for judicious free distribution at the Missouri State Building by Walter Williams, the well known editor, under whose direction the work was prepared. "The State of Missouri-An Autobiography," as the book is called, aims to answer concisely, clearly and frankly every question that can be asked about our great commonwealth. It contains over thirteen hundred notable and excellent photographic scenes in Missouri history, industry, buildings and landscape. Each of the one hundred and fourteen counties is represented in these photographs as well as in the letter press. The heading of the chapter upon each county shows some of its characteristic scenes. From whatever standpoint considered, the work is a monumental one placing as it does in a permanent, concrete and entertaining form the history, resources and advantages of our great state.

Mr. Folk And His Work.

The good words that are being said for Joseph Folk by the press of the country are well deserved. Mr. Folk undoubtedly has done heroic work in prosecuting boodlers and in partly overthrowing the power of the corrupt machine in democratic politics. This does not argue, however, that Mr. Folk should be governor of Missouri. The fact that he is seeking that office looks somewhat as if he were using his reform work as a stepping stone for personal advancement. Many great reformers have asked no reward except the satisfying consciousness that they did their duty.

Many of Mr. Folk's admirers fear that he might not acquit himself so well in the governor's office. He is a courageous and energetic prosecuting attorney, but it takes something more than that to make a good governor of a great state. Mr. Folk's experience in public life thus far consists of his services as a court attorney. He has never been member of a state legislature, or mayor of his town, or even alderman of his ward. The government of the fifth state in the union is a rather heavy responsibility to entrust to untried hands.

Mr. Folk's laurels are safe. Another office is not necessary to secure them. If his labors as circuit attorney have so weakened the democratic machine that the government at the next election shall come under control of a clean and capable set of officials, he has achieved high honors. As governor, with an important part of his administration hostile to him and his purposes, he could not accomplish much. The state would not be so well off as it will be if his republican opponent, Mr. Walbridge, supported by a full complement of upright and intelligent state officers, has charge of its affairs for the next four years.

Mr. Folk is young yet. If he becomes governor eight or twelve years hence he will be traveling fast enough. —Kansas City Journal.

Protect Yourself.

With a view to insuring intending visitors to St. Louis during the Fair period satisfactory accommodations the Merchants' Service Company has been organized, being at present the authorized agents of the owners or lessees of a large number of hotels, apartment houses and private residences in the city, and is fully equipped to rent furnished rooms for lodging purposes. Under the arrangements that have been perfected it is proposed to book intending visitors, whether individuals families or clubs, for apartments such as they desire, both as to location and price, thus assuring those who are coming to the fair relief from anxiety as to where they will stay. An understanding has been reached with the Merchants' Service Company whereby our patrons can secure satisfactory accommodations at a nominal expense.

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From up in a balloon the flags of all nations, waving from towers and spires, seem but little gaudy rags floating in the breeze, and the towers themselves look like mere playhouses. The curious Pike shows, filling a street a mile long, present an interesting view, while the lagoons with their launches and gondolas have the appearance of a splendid painting, the green banks and magnificent exhibition palaces along the lagoon providing a suitable frame for the picture.

The beautiful view extends beyond the World's Fair grounds. The city of St. Louis and surrounding country opens a charming view, extending for miles in all directions, forming interesting outlines for the marvelous picture of the magic city—the World's Fair.

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